WHEREAS, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire (UW-Eau Claire) Student Senate is the official voice of the student body; and

WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire has committed efforts towards an environment of equity, diversity, and inclusion for members of its campus community; and

WHEREAS, all gender identities and sexual orientations that individuals express should be dignified, accepted and honored; and

WHEREAS, National Coming Out Day is a civil awareness day observed internationally for LGBTQIAP+ individuals coming out and creating a safe space for the discussion and celebration of LGBTQIAP+ lives; and

WHEREAS, the LGBTQIAP+ community is one of the largest population groups on campus with historically marginalized identities; and

WHEREAS, UW-Eau Claire is recognized as the #1 school in Wisconsin and #3 in the nation to serve LGBTQIAP+ students and faculty; and

WHEREAS, Eau Claire was the third city in Wisconsin to ban conversion therapy; and

WHEREAS, the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center (GSRC) partnered with the Department of Housing and Residence Life at UW-Eau Claire to inaugurate a floor specifically for the LGBTQIAP+ community and allies to live, learn and grow together during the 2019-2020 academic year; and

WHEREAS, the GSRC at UW-Eau Claire hosts annual festivities on National Coming Out Day for students to feel loved and supported; and

WHEREAS, celebrating National Coming Out Day on October 11th fosters a safe and welcoming atmosphere for LGBTQIAP+ individuals to express themselves openly and freely;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, Student Senate at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire accepts, stands with, and supports the members of its campus community that identify as LGBTQIAP+; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Student Senate at UW-Eau Claire will call upon its administration to support the welcoming of Blugolds that identify within the LGBTQIAP+ community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UW-Eau Claire will celebrate October 11th as an opportunity to recognize that the choice of coming out is never an isolated occurrence and the process continues to affect the lives of individuals in diverse ways throughout their life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Student Senate supports and commemorates National Coming Out Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, it is imperative that UW-Eau Claire continues to publicly support the LGBTQIAP+ community in order to foster a safe and welcoming campus; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Johnson will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Evan Weiher, University Senate; Chris Jorgenson, Director, Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; Teresa O’Halloran, Director, Affirmative Action; Albert Colom, Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Demetrius Smith, Program Director of EDI; John Haven III, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; Quincy Chapman, Director, Housing and Residence Life; Deborah Newman, Associate Director, Housing and Residence Life; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Mike Knuth, Integrated Marketing and Communications;

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